

conceive what would happen when it came time for the male to sit. Mr. Poling makes mention of the bird carrying only one egg. But the set consists of two eggs, and the birds do not incubate (though they may stand over the first egg and guard it) until the second egg is laid. The European Cuckoo, it is said, sometimes carries her egg in her bill (see summary of data, by Francis H. Herrick, in the *Journal of Experimental Zoology*, 1910). But such a habit is altogether foreign to the behavior of pigeons.

Hence, we must not believe that the Band-tailed Pigeon carries its eggs unless on the very best of evidence. Have we the best of evidence? Not at all. That a pigeon was shot with an egg embedded in the feathers of the belly indicates, not that the bird had carried the egg voluntarily, but that the egg had become accidentally fastened to the feathers. The egg may have been cracked or nicked, and glued to the feathers by the exuding albumen. I have seen even an unbroken egg carried about because stuck to the feathers by some albumen from a broken egg.—WALLACE CRAIG, *Orono, Maine*.

Note on the Bald Eagle and Osprey.—On a number of occasions I have had the good luck to see a Bald Eagle rob an Osprey of his hard-earned meal; but never, until last summer, had I seen the Osprey retaliate in any way whatever. Frequent observations have led me to look upon the latter bird as rather peaceable for a bird of prey, and strongly inclined to attend strictly to business.

On the occasion in question I came out on the shore of Lake Androscoggin, a considerable body of water in the Androscoggin River region of Maine, just in time to see an interesting combat, involving some very fine wing work. The Eagle had just forced the Osprey to drop a fish, but had failed to catch it as it fell. The smaller bird then withdrew to a point about fifty feet above, and suddenly swooping down, attempted to strike the Eagle on the back. Just as it looked certain that the broad back must receive the full force of the stroke, up went one great wing, with an agility and a skill that would have done credit to a practised boxer, and the Osprey was tossed aside with apparently almost no effort. This was repeated several times; when the Osprey, evidently discouraged, gave up the unequal fight and winged away toward the far side of the lake. Immediately the Eagle dropped to the water, and picking up the fish made off with it.

Throughout the performance, the difference between the birds in build and action was very striking: the Eagle, broad, heavy, apparently slow and clumsy—deceptively so, as the event showed; the Osprey, slender, undulating, all agile grace and skill.—FREEMAN F. BURR, *White Plains, N. Y.*

Maynard's Cuckoo (*Coccyzus minor maynardi* Ridgway) in Cuba.—On March 9, 1912, I secured a female specimen of the Mangrove Cuckoo, along the bay at "Manati," Guantanamo, Cuba. Not being sure as to

which form it was, I sent it to Mr. J. H. Riley of Washington for identification, who reports it to be *Coccyzus minor maynardi* Ridgw., adding that there was no certainty heretofore to which form the Cuban bird belonged. I have another specimen of this species also a female taken by me along the bay at "Los Caños," Guantanamo on March 26, 1911, which had remained unidentified in my collection until now.—CHAS. T. RAMSDEN, *Guantanamo, Cuba*.

The Cuban Whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus cubanensis* Lawrence) **with Young**.—On April 20, 1912, while riding over some pastures 10 miles south of Bayamo, a city in Oriente Province, Cuba, I came to a patch of woods about two acres in extent which stood in the middle of the pasture and through which flowed a small stream; suddenly there flew up from under the horse's feet four *Antrostomus cubanensis*—two adults and two three-fourths grown young. I secured one of the young by throwing a stick at it, the parents flew short distances each flight, to attract me away from the spot, but I was unable to secure them as I had no gun.

I believe this to be the first record of the young being seen or taken, as also a new locality record: Dr. Gundlach states that he has taken it only at "La Ciénaga de Zapata" and in the mountains north of Guantanamo.—CHAS. T. RAMSDEN, *Guantanamo, Cuba*.

A Starling at Squantum, Mass.—On March 26, 1912, on a trip to Squantum and Moon Island with Mr. Richard M. Marble, a Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) was seen on the headland, known as Squantum Head. It was in company with four Robins and was viewed on successive perches upon the scattered trees and also as it walked on the ground. The bird was not seen on subsequent visits to the place either by ourselves or by other observers. As Squantum Head is within sight of the gilded dome of the State House, the occurrence of this individual Starling, is, so far as I am aware, the first record of the species in the immediate vicinity of Boston.—HORACE W. WRIGHT, *Boston, Mass.*

A case of Cannibalism among Blackbirds.—On June 17, 1911, in a patch of rushes bordering the Wisconsin River, at Tomahawk, Wisc., I noticed a great commotion among a colony of Red-winged Blackbirds. Upon investigation I found the object of the united attack of the Redwings was an adult male Bronzed Grackle. As the Grackles and Blackbirds appeared to live peaceably side by side all along the river I suspected the bird which was being attacked had wronged the Redwings, and to render my observations more certain I shot the Grackle, and on picking him up found a young Redwing in his bill. He had killed the Redwing by crushing its skull with his heavy bill and would no doubt have carried it off to his own young, had not the adult Redwings attacked him. Judging the young Redwing by its size, it had probably left the nest for about a week, and it is surprising that the Grackle should have selected so large a bird. An